AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

1.   (Original) A controller for controlling a cursor, comprising:

an identifying module for identifying at least one of a first period when a cursor is in motion and a second period when said cursor is not in motion; and

a calibrating module for calibrating an input parameter signal using a first sampling time during said first period and a second sampling time, different than said first sampling time, during said second period.

2.   (Original) The controller according to claim 1, further comprising:

an input for inputting said input parameter signal from a force sensor; and

an output which receives a calibrated input parameter signal from said calibrating module and outputs a cursor movement signal based on said calibrated input parameter signal.

3.   (Original) The controller according to claim 2, wherein said input parameter signal comprises an input parameter signal detected during a period when a pointing stick connected to said force sensor is untouched by a user.

4.   (Original) The controller according to claim 2, wherein a transfer function for generating said cursor movement signal comprises a dead band within which said cursor movement signal causes no cursor movement for a non-zero input parameter signal.

5.   (Original) The controller according to claim 1, wherein said calibrating module calibrates said input parameter signal during a hands-off period.

6.   (Original) The controller according to claim 1, wherein said calibrating module sets said input parameter signal to a zero signal, relative to which a significant input parameter signal is measured.

7.   (Original) The controller according to claim 1, wherein said input parameter signal is calibrated to inhibit a cursor drift.

8. (Original) The controller according to claim 1, wherein said second sampling time is less than said first sampling time.

9. (Original) The controller according to claim 1, wherein said first sampling time comprises a duration of at least about 5 seconds, and said second sampling time comprises no more than about 0.53 seconds.

10. (Original) A cursor control system, comprising:

a force sensor which generates an input parameter signal; and

a controller operably coupled to said force sensor, comprising:

an identifying module for identifying at least one of a first period when a cursor is in motion and a second period when said cursor is not in motion; and

a calibrating module for calibrating an input parameter signal using a first sampling time during said first period and a second sampling time, different than said first sampling time, during said second period.

11. (Original) The cursor control system according to claim 10, wherein said controller further comprises an input for inputting said input parameter signal from a force sensor, and an output which receives a calibrated input parameter signal from said calibrating module and outputs a cursor movement signal based on said calibrated input parameter signal.

12. (Original) The cursor control system according to claim 10, wherein said force sensor comprises a pointing device which is integrally formed in a keyboard assembly.

13. (Original) The cursor control system according to claim 10, wherein said calibrating module calibrates said input parameter signal during a hands-off period.

14. (Original) The cursor control system according to claim 10, wherein said second sampling time is less than said first sampling time.

15. (Original) The cursor control system according to claim 10, wherein said first sampling time comprises a duration of at least about 5 seconds, and said second sampling time comprises

no more than about 0.53 seconds.

16. (Original) A keyboard assembly comprising the cursor control system according to claim 10, wherein said force sensor comprises a pointing device which is integrally formed in a keyboard.

17. (Original) A computer system, comprising
a keyboard assembly comprising the cursor control system according to claim 10; and
a display device for displaying a cursor controlled by said cursor control system.

18. (Original) A method of controlling a cursor, comprising:
identifying at least one of a first period when a cursor is in motion and a second period when said cursor is not in motion; and
calibrating an input parameter signal using a first sampling time during said first period and a second sampling time different than said first sampling time during said second period.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 18, wherein said second sampling time is less than said first sampling time.

20. (Original) A programmable storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method of controlling a cursor, said method comprising:
identifying at least one of a first period when a cursor is in motion and a second period when said cursor is not in motion; and
calibrating an input parameter signal using a first sampling time during said first period and a second sampling time different than said first sampling time during said second period.

21. (New) The controller according to claim 1, wherein said controller is included in a pointing stick system, and said input parameter signal measures a force applied to a point stick in said pointing stick system.

22. (New) The controller according to claim 1, wherein said calibrating said input parameter

Serial No. 10/720,186
Docket No. YOR920030255US1

5

signal comprises sampling said input parameter signal using said first sampling time during said

first period and said second sampling time during said second period.